UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION

DOUGLAS W. BAILLIE,)

Plaintiff,)

-vs-) CASE NO. C-1-02-062
)

CHUBB & SON INSURANCE,)

Defendant.)

The deposition upon oral examination of THOMAS B. BREINER, a witness produced and sworn before me, Tavi L. Fraga, a Notary Public in and for the County of Boone, State of Indiana, taken on behalf of the plaintiff at the offices of Haskin Lauter & LaRue, 255 North Alabama Street, Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana, on the 26th day of September, 2003, pursuant to the Indiana Rules of Trial Procedure.

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- 1 Q. What do you recall about that performance review?
- 2 A. That I was rated lower than I thought I should have
- been, based on the goals that I had been provided oragreed to.
- 5 Q. Now, let me direct your attention to the calendar
- 6 year 2002 and, first of all, I'll ask you whether or
- 7 not you had managers reporting to you at that time in
- 8 your branch?
- 9 A. Yes, I did.
- 10 Q. Do you recall whether or not you had a number of new
- 11 managers reporting to you in your branch?
- 12 A. In 2002?
- 13 Q. Yes.
- 14 A. I had several.
- 15 Q. Now, I want to direct your attention to a meeting I
- 16 believe you had with Mr. Szerlong in Chicago during
- the summer of 2002, okay? Are you with me?
- 18 A. (Witness nodding head.)
- 19 Q. Do you recall any statements by Mr. Breiner during
- 20 any meeting you had with him in Chicago in the summer
- of 2002 in which he referred to your age?
- 22 A. I believe in your question you used my name, and I
- 23 believe you intended to use --
- 24 Q. Oh, did I say Mr. Breiner?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Do you recall Mr. Breiner -- I'm sorry. Do you
- 2 recall Mr. Szerlong telling you, in effect, or
- perhaps exactly, that you would have a challenge managing certain managers, quote, at your age
- 4 managing certain managers, quote, at your age,5 unquote?
- 6 MR. MONTGOMERY: Objection; leading and it 7 misstates the testimony.

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- 8 A. He did not say in effect or -- I'm not sure I
- 9 understand that aspect of the question. And there was no discussion of specific managers that might be
- younger that might be a challenge for me to manage.
- 12 Q. But he made a reference to your age?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Did you form a belief at that time as to whether or
- not Mr. Szerlong was regarding your age as being a
- 16 positive or a negative?
- 17 A. He created concern in my mind.
- 18 Q. Explain to me the concern he created in your mind.
- 19 A. That my age was being viewed as a factor in my
- ability to successfully perform my duties.
- 21 Q. Now, did you do anything as a result of receiving
- 22 this information from Mr. Szerlong, take any action?
- 23 A. I had had a subsequent discussion with the head of
- 24 U.S. field operations for human resources and
- 25 expressed my concern that that statement or that

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- 1 Q. I'm sorry, yes, I did. Please substitute
- 2 Mr. Szerlong.
- 3 A. Could you repeat the question, please?
- 4 Q. I can. Do you recall Mr. Szerlong ever making any
- 5 reference to your age in a meeting with you?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Tell us, first of all -- well, tell us what happened
- 8 at that meeting.
- 9 A. It was a meeting where I was in Chicago with the
- 10 purposes of bringing Mr. Szerlong up-to-date on
- activity in the branch and issues in the branch and
- 12 to discuss the current state of affairs. And my age
- 13 was brought up in proportion to one of the
- 14 discussions.
- 15 Q. How was your age brought up?
- 16 A. My age was brought up in that it could be a factor in
- 17 terms of how I related to younger managers and
- 18 developed younger managers and understood younger
- 19 managers in my branch.
- 20 Q. Do you recall Mr. Szerlong telling you something in
- 21 substance that you may have a challenge managing some
- 22 managers at your particular age?
- MR. MONTGOMERY: Objection; leading; misstates
- ?4 the testimony.
- 25 A. Please repeat the question.

- 1 situation had occurred.
- 2 Q. And you had that discussion in what calendar year?
- 3 A. I don't recall if it was late 2002 or early two
- 4 thousand -- I believe it was early 2003.
- 5 O. And who was that?
- 6 A. His name was Mike Marinaro.
- 7 Q. Tell me, what do you recall about what you reported
- 8 Mr. Marinaro?

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- 9 A. I simply expressed my concern about the fact that the
- 10 statement was made.
- 11 Q. Did Mr. Marinaro ask you any -- or strike that.
- Do you recall where you were when you reported
 - this to Mr. Marinaro?
- 14 A. Yes. We had a meeting in Indianapolis.
- 15 Q. And did Marinaro -- Marinaro, you say he was the head
- 16 of U.S. field operations?
- 17 A. That's my understanding of his title.
 - 8 Q. It's not a human resource function?
- 19 A. Yes, it is. He would be responsible for human
- 20 resources for the United States.
- 21 Q. All right. And when you expressed this concern to
- 22 him face-to-face in Indianapolis, how much time would
- 23 you estimate he spent discussing your concern with
- you in Indianapolis, specifically about the age
- 25 concern, if any time at all?